



Clinton County Justice Coordinating Commission
Clinton County Courthouse
612 North Second Street, Suite 103
Clinton, Iowa 52732
(563) 243-6210 ext. 4310

Mental Health/Substance Abuse Committee July 20, 2015-Meeting Minutes

DATE: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
TIME: July 20, 2015
LOCATION: Clinton County Courthouse 2nd Floor Jury Room

The Committee met with Margaret Kuhl, CCJCC Coordinator and Kim Ralston, CAP Director, Committee Chair presiding. Present: 11 members and guests.

Members & Guest Present:

Paul Blair, Bridgeview CMHC
Jake Dever, Sheriff's Office
Becky Eskildsen, MH/DS CDC
Gabe Gluba; ASAC/ND
Kim Hess, Clerk of Court
Margaret Kuhl, CCJCC Coordinator

Penny Linden, Admin. Asst., MH Dept
Kim Ralston, Committee Chair
Tom Roble, Clinton Police Dept
Jacie Wherry, Mercy Behavioral Health
Mike Wolf, Clinton County Attorney

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2015.

Margaret Kuhl reported on The Therapeutic Alternatives to Incarceration Workshop that she and Gabe Gluda attended on Friday the 17th of July. They said it was a great networking resource. Margaret stated funding for jail diversion would come from a combination of sources. Gabe commented there is not one module but several different approaches to the jail diversion.

Margaret Kuhl presented an article on the STEPPING UP initiative and stated she is going find out more about the program.

Margaret Kuhl presented an article from the Des Moines Register- June 27, 2015 entitled, "Why Iowa should open the jailhouse doors and release those with mental illness"-by Nancy Hale and Sheriff Paul H. Fitzgerald. Discussion followed.

Becky Eskildsen reported on inpatient care in Illinois. She noted the commitment laws in Illinois are not the same as the Iowa Mental Health laws. Senate File 440, effective 7/1/2015, allows for sheriff transportation across state lines to provide individuals with mental health and substance-related disorders for treatment. However Illinois does not have to recognize Iowa laws for Mental Health inpatient services.

Eskildsen discussed the Springfield Illinois psychiatric facility as an option for inpatient services. The Springfield facility is a 220 bed unit. The facility is located about a 2 ½ hour drive from Scott County which is a comparable drive to Polk County.



Becky Eskildsen stated she and the Regional management team toured the crisis bed facility in Polk County.

Becky Eskildsen reported there has been one application received for the Emergency Service Program, effective July 1, 2015. This is a pilot program to assist individuals who need a place to stay overnight for time out purposes. The program is being coordinated with Bridgeview CMHC.

Mike Wolf stated there was an article in the Des Moines Register in regard to the possibility of Strategic Behavioral Health building a for-profit psychiatric hospital in Central Iowa. The project would need to gain a "certificate of need" from the State. There are successful for-profit hospitals located in at least 6 other states.

Becky discussed the Mental Health Advocate position. The Courts are no longer required to manage the Mental Health position effective July 2015. The counties are now allowed to appoint and supervisor the Mental Health Advocate. Scott County has agreed to serve as the employer of record and the Region's fiscal agent.

The Regional management team will begin the process of hiring a new Mental Health Advocate. Favorable comments were made in regard to services provided by Rose McVay, Mental Health Advocate who will resign after 20 years of service at the end of June 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Penny Linden".

Penny Linden